



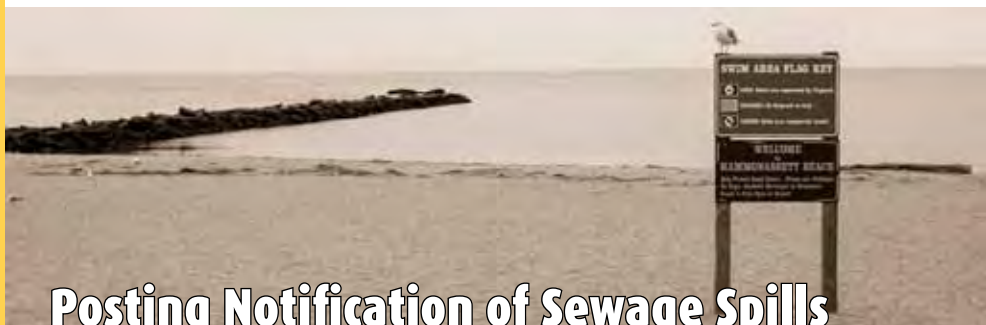
Preserving the Shoreline

After Tropical Storm Irene pummeled our state last year, damage on the shoreline was massive. I sponsored a coastal management bill that prepares for future hurricanes and rising sea levels, while at the same time protects property owners' rights. (Photo courtesy of Matthew Zwilling taken at Indian Neck in Branford)



Protecting Your Pet

When a family discovers that a newly adopted puppy or kitten is very sick and needs costly care, it can be heartbreaking. But it's even more heartbreaking to seek reimbursement for those medical bills and have to turn the animal back over to the pet shop. I passed a bill that changes the "Pet Lemon Law," so that a person can seek up to a \$500 reimbursement for the cost of treatment, and not have to return the animal.



Posting Notification of Sewage Spills

Too often, families arrive at the beach or lake only to find a posted sign of unclean water. That will change, thanks to a bill I championed that will let people check the water quality status before they head out for the day. The bill requires the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to promptly post on its website information about sewage spills that contaminate rivers and other bodies of water, including Long Island Sound.



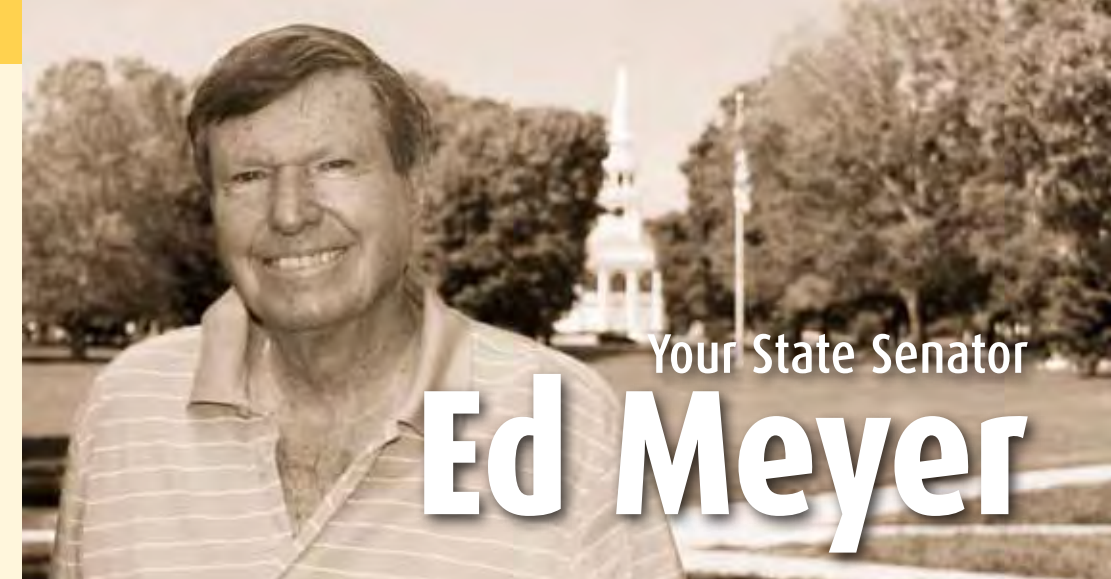
Manufacturing Internships

Manufacturing is a key component of our economy, which is why I have fought for programs to support small manufacturers in our state. I proudly voted for a bill that will allow high school students 16 and older to get manufacturing internships. Our state needs more workers with high-tech manufacturing skills, and this bill will empower students to achieve that goal.

Growing Jobs, Strengthening the Economy



The emerging economic revival in Connecticut continues—this time with a business expansion and new jobs right here in our district. I toured local manufacturer Engineering Specialties Inc. in North Branford and met the first person in the state to be hired with help from a key bipartisan jobs program we created last fall. Since then, 170 people have been hired at 98 businesses currently taking part in STEP-Up (the Subsidized Training and Employment Program). Now we are looking to build on that momentum with an expanded jobs Plan this summer.



Your State Senator

Ed Meyer

Representing the residents of
Branford, Durham, Guilford,
Killingworth, Madison & North Branford

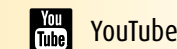
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Ed Meyer

Your State Senator

Resources

In addition to our work this session, last October we passed an historic, bipartisan Jobs Bill to help small businesses and workers by improving access to capital, job training and education. Below is a list of programs and contact info that could benefit you or someone you know.

- **Job Expansion Tax Credits** for small businesses: www.decd.org
- **Small Business Express Package** to get funding for your small business: www.decd.org, or contact Michelle Lugo at 860-270-8052 or michelle.lugo@ct.gov
- **STEP Up** (Subsidized Training & Employment Programs) provides worker training subsidies for small businesses and small manufacturers: contact Rina Bakalar at the Office for Workforce Competitiveness, 860-263-6523 or rina.bakalar@ct.gov
- **Connecticut Reemployment Portal** if you have recently lost a job and are looking for work: www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/CTReP
- **Job & Career Connection** for details on job and training programs: www.ctjobandcareer.org

To learn more, visit: www.senatedems.ct.gov/GrowJobs



Talking with Albert Watson, who was hired and is being trained through the State's STEP-Up program by Engineering Specialties in North Branford. Albert was the first person in the state to be hired under STEP-Up.



Education Reforms

Every child deserves a first-class education. That's why we worked to pass an historic education reform plan. It provides interventions and innovative new strategies for high-need schools and support for children and families. It invests in communities and ensures high-quality teaching in the classroom.

The new law provides:

- 1,000 new early childhood slots
- 20 new or expanded school-based health centers
- Kindergarten through third-grade reading programs
- Innovative approaches to teaching English Language Learners
- Support for new and existing Family Resource Centers
- An evaluation system that will help teachers improve
- Additional funding to school districts across the state

Strengthening Storm Response



Last year, in Tropical Storm Irene and the October snowstorm, we saw record-breaking power outages and home damage. The General Assembly passed legislation this year that establishes performance standards for our utilities in the restoration of power after storms and enacts serious penalties for non-compliance.

Additionally, in the Senate, we crafted legislation that would have extended price-gouging protection to weather-related services such as snow removal, flood abatement, and repairs. Unfortunately this bill did not pass in the House. This is an important issue that the General Assembly should remain focused on next year.

Relief at the Pump

This session I helped pass a comprehensive plan that caps the gross receipts tax by applying it to only the first \$3 a gallon when gas is sold on the wholesale market. The plan also strengthens protections against price gouging, cracks down on oil profiteering, and requires that savings from the cap get passed along to consumers.

We can't affect the price of oil on the international exchange—but we can give our Dept. of Consumer Protection and Attorney General tools to ensure large oil wholesalers don't take advantage of rising prices to unfairly gouge consumers.



A COMMITMENT TO
CREATING
JOBS

How do you improve on the successful Connecticut job-creation and economic assistance plan we recently created?

You make it available to even more businesses and employees.

This year Senate Democrats expanded the Jobs Bill that we originally approved last October. That means:

- Extending incentives to thousands of additional small and medium size businesses which will lead to more state manufacturers hiring, buying, training and expanding;
- Additional job-training support for post-9/11 combat veterans through the expansion of our new state STEP-Up Program;
- A 'Connecticut Made' marketing campaign that advertises and markets locally made products;
- And a stronger "First Five" business incentive program that gives preference to companies that move jobs from overseas back to Connecticut.